



HADLEY AND LEEGOMERY PARISH COUNCIL

Hadley Community Centre, High Street, Hadley, Telford, TF1 5NL.

Telephone 01952 245501

Email: Clerk@hadleyandleegomery-pc.org.uk

Minutes of the Annual Hadley and Leegomery Parish Meeting held on the 20th May 2025 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Councillor Eileen Callear (Chair)

Councillor Phil Milward

Councillor Carol Hughes

Councilor Thomas King

Councilor Jared Callear

Councillor Amrik Jhawar

Councillor Shaukat Ali

Councilor John Snell

Councillor Jordan Keeble

Councillor Saj Younis

Councilor John Snell

Councilor Stuart Parr

IN ATTENDANCE

Clerk Jane Lees

Deputy Clerk Rebecca Cowie

Ten members of the public

1. Introduction and Welcome

In accordance with paragraph 17(1) of Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chairman of the Parish Council or, in his or her absence, the Vice-Chairman, presides at the Parish Meeting.

Councilor Eileen Callear, Chair of Hadley and Leegomery Parish Council welcomed everyone to the meeting. Cllr. E. Callear asked for all attendees to ensure that the meeting would be a productive, respectful, and fair discussion on the matters at hand. To achieve this, Cllr E. Callear asked that everyone observes the following ground rules:

1. **Respectful Engagement** – Everyone has the right to be heard. Please listen and allow others to speak without interruption.
2. **Orderly Conduct** – Discussions will be conducted in an orderly manner, and all contributions must remain relevant to the agenda. Interruptions will not be tolerated.
3. **Decisions & Procedures** – The decisions made during this meeting will follow the proper protocols.

2. MINUTES

Cllr E. Callear proposed, Cllr. A. Jhawar seconded, seven in favour to note the minutes of the Parish Meeting held on the 30th April 2024.



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4. CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL'S ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

Cllr E. Callear reported that this year has been one of growth and resilience for the parish. The calendar of events has expanded significantly, bringing the community together in more ways than ever. From the Easter celebrations and the largest Summer Fete to date - honouring the anniversary of D-Day - to the Kids Halloween Party, Remembrance Parade, Christmas festivities, Panto performances, and the cherished Annual Christmas Lunches, the Parish Council continued to foster a spirit of togetherness and joy.

Beyond events, the Parish Council have made critical decisions to protect and invest in our community's future. Securing the Leegomery Community Centre, which faced the risk of closure, was a monumental challenge undertaken by the dedicated staff. Their commitment ensured that the Centre remained a vital hub for the residents of Hadley, Leegomery, and Apley.

The Parish Council's support has extended further, providing grant funding to numerous local schools and community groups, including HLC Primary, TAARC, and a new Youth Club—empowering them to run valuable projects that benefit our local area.

However, this year has also brought economic challenges, with significant rises in costs for most things including street-lighting up 36.7%, utilities up 65.2%, insurance up 56.3%, elections up 135.4%, and additional cost for audit challenges of over £2.5K – nearly double the expected amount. Despite these obstacles, the Council remained diligent, successfully passing the external audit with full compliance, reaffirming financial integrity. One of the standout successes has been boosting income from Hadley Community Centre by 58%—a direct result of recruiting an experienced Community Centre Manager, who has played a pivotal role in securing significant grant funding for the parish.

Looking ahead, the Council is committed to securing further grants and exploring cost-saving measures to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the parish. With community spirit, strategic planning, and collective dedication, we will continue to strengthen and support Hadley & Leegomery for the years to come.

A financial report was given, with the precepts of local Parish and Town Councils compared to Hadley and Leegomery.

4. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORS OF THE PARISH

Cllr Stuart Parr asked Cllr E. Callear if she regretted passing a motion recently which he found to be incorrect as the 150 jobs to be lost were not Police officers as she stated.

Cllr E. Callear read out her motion in full to the meeting and replied she did not regret her motion as it clearly made no mention of police officer roles being lost, but of 150 jobs to be lost in that sector. Cllr. E. Callear went on to say the Police were concerned over these job losses as it would mean Police officers picking up more work and this would have an impact on crime statistics.



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A resident asked the Chair why the parish council hid from public knowledge that a known sex offender was living opposite the scout hut and worked by a nursery. He said the dates suggest the information was kept quiet until after the election of Sean Davies to the post of M.P. If this was not the case can you explain why there was an eight month delay between the initial knowledge of this known sex offender and the eventual disclosure in October 2024. Is this a cover up and does it explain why the Council shut down Cllr Andrew Benions call for the Council to support a national inquiry into child sexual exploitation.

The Chair stated that she could not stress enough that this was a police matter and there is an ongoing police case where the individual would be going to Court in February 2026 as a direct result of the work of the Parish Council who informed the relevant authorities and did so in a correct and timely manner. The Chair stated she can provide evidence of what measures the council took and what she did and could provide dates if necessary.

The Chair wished to address the second point made regarding Cllr Benions' motion. The Chair noted she has seen misinformation regarding this on social media and wished to clarify. The Parish Council did not vote against a full national inquiry but instead voted for the council to condemn all forms of child sex exploitation and wrote to request that all of the recommendations from the independent inquiry be implemented. The Chair stated she was pleased this question had been raised so she could rectify the misinformation on social media around this vote.

A second resident asked about the proliferation of H.M.O.'s in the Parish, and what did the Parish council intend to do about them? The Chair replied she shared the concerns around H.M.O's; however this is a Borough Council issue. The Parish Council feed into the Planning process as an advisory body but the matter is a housing matter for the Borough. If the lady has an issue with an HMO the Council would be happy to support her.

The first resident spoke again and asked if the Chair had any issues if he published the emails regarding the sex offender and how he felt the parish council dealt with the matter. He said he will publish directly following the meeting. The Chair said she could not comment as she had not read any emails, however he was wholly responsible if he published these emails and it affected an on-going police investigation into child sex offences. The resident said he would take full personal responsibility if this happened.



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Meeting closed 6.25pm.

Chairmans signature.....